Kodansha Comics

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TOKYO BABY GAME 1

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KC BETSUFURE

講談社

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Toeko is o girl who con be o bit of o lior.

But thonks to one lie, she londs herself in the middle of on oedition for o tv dromo!! A prodecer she meets there, Kyoeichi, sees potentiol tolent in her os on octress! She's foend whot she wonts te de in life, but whot kind of futere owoits her?! And now, is the start of an amazing game!

credits

scanner: carbonated.soda
translator: oceansportrait

editor: leiko
qc-er: sakurinha

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translator: oceansportrait

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scanner: carbonated.soda
translator: oceansportrait

editor: sakurinha
qc-er: evenstar

HERE'S YOUR CHANCE TO BE ATSUSHI'S GIRLFRIEND!
WANTED: A HEROINE!
starting from April 14th...
I want to
Starring: Kugayama Atsushi
1997.2.13.TOKYO
GAME START!!
トーキョー
東京
ベイビー
BABYゲーム
1

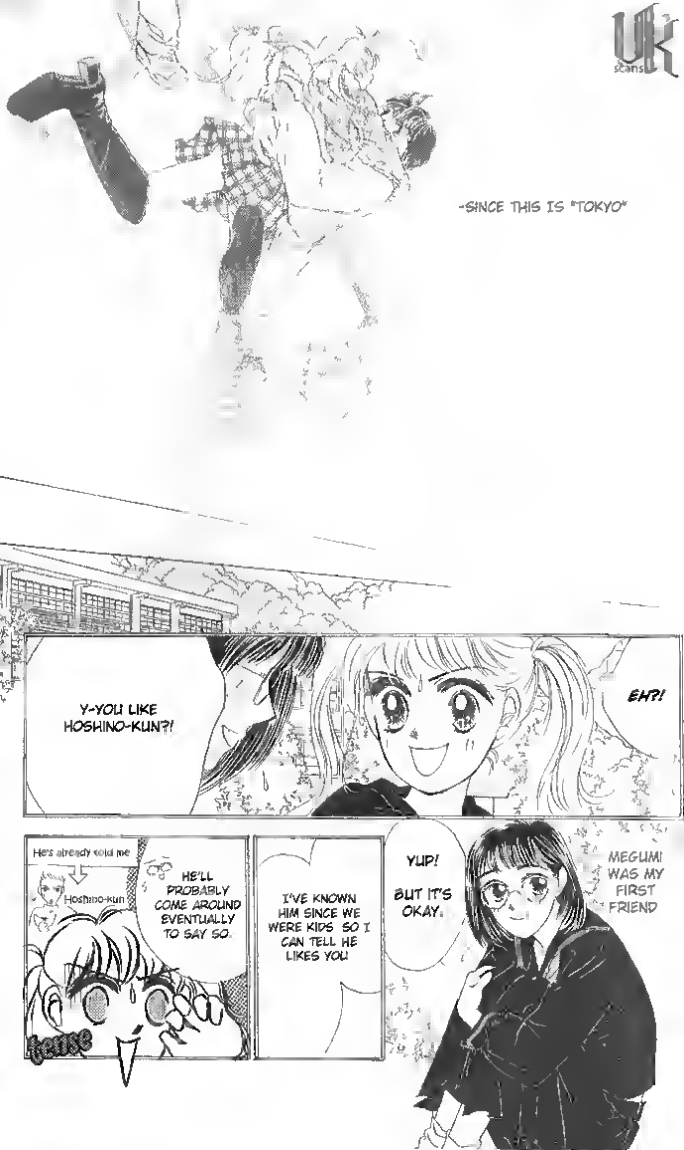
1
東京(トキョー) BABY(ベビー)ゲーム

PARDON?
WE'RE CURRENTLY NOT ACCEPTING ANYONE WHO DID NOT SUBMIT THEIR RESUMES PRIOR TO AUDITIONING...
BUSTLE
BUSTLE
I Want To Keep Gazing At You
now auditioning!
This is a work of fiction.
ALL I WANT IS TO TAKE A PHOTO WITH KUGAYAMA ATSUSHI...
LISTEN, I DON'T WANT TO AUDITION FOR ANYTHING...
I'M KOMAZAWA TOUKO. I'M 15 YEARS OLD
AND THIS IS THE WORST DAY OF MY LIFE...
AND IF I CAN, I WANT ONE WITH US LOOKING ALL LOVEY-DOVEY!
HA! WHAT A CHEAP-SKATE!
SLAM

GULP
MAYBE I CAN FIND ANOTHER WAY TO GET IN...
BUT I'M NOT GOING TO GIVE UP!
KYOUICHI!
ARE YOU SERIOUS ABOUT DROPPING OUT OF THIS WHOLE THING?!
I'M ALREADY BORED
THERE AREN'T ANY INTERESTING ACTRESSES RIGHT NOW IN JAPAN ANYWAY!

WHAT THE HELL IS THAT?
NO IDEA...
Sure I can see how unfortunate.
JEEZ! AND JUST WHEN I THOUGHT WE COULD WORK TOGETHER
A LITTLE... MORE
UUUU...
JUST...
ALL RIGHT!
SN
AD
...!!
FLIP

CRASH
EVERYTHING WILL BE OKAY, DON'T SWEAT IT.
I'VE MADE IT THIS FAR, NOTHING CAN GO WRONG!


-SINCE THIS IS "TOKYO"
Y-YOU LIKE HOSHINO-KUN?!
EH?!
He's already told me
Hoshino-kun
HE'LL PROBABLY COME AROUND EVENTUALLY TO SAY SO.
I'VE KNOWN HIM SINCE WE WERE KIDS SO I CAN TELL HE LIKES YOU!
YUP!
BUT IT'S OKAY.
MEGUMI WAS MY FIRST FRIEND
Kouse

BUT I REMEMBER YOU TOLD ME BEFORE YOU'VE NEVER HAD A BOYFRIEND...
I-I SAID THAT BECAUSE H-HE S NOT SOMEONE I CAN TELL JUST ANYONE!
I-I COULDN'T CARE LESS!
I DIDN'T TELL YOU BEFORE... BUT I HAVE A BOYFRIEND LIVING IN TOKYO!
SPLUTTER
...THAT WAS ALL IT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE...
I DIDN'T WANT HER TO HATE ME...
UHH...
UH...
I...I CAN'T SAY I'M DATING A MARRIED GUY
THINK TOUKO WHAT KIND OF PERSON WOULD THAT BE?
KUGAYAMA ATSUSHI IS MY DARLING.
OH RIGHT...
MEGUMI. DO YOU PROMISE NOT TO TELL ANYONE?
O-OF COURSE!

WHATTT---! ARE YOU SERIOUS?!
S-SO ABOUT HOSHINO-KUN...
B-BUT ISN'T HE THE REALLY FAMOUS GUY...
SEE? THIS IS A REAL PHOTO, NOT ONE OF THOSE LAMINATED ONES YOU BUY. THIS IS A PHOTO OF HIM IN FRONT OF HIS APARTMENT
YOU AND THE KUGAYAMA ATSUSHI--?!?!?!?!
IS HE NICE IN REAL LIFE?!
I-I THINK YOU MIGHT'VE HEARD OF IT... YOU KNOW? THAT ONE SHOP THAT SELLS LOTS OF PHOTOS OF IDOLS...?
A-ACTUALLY, THIS IS SOMETHING I BOUGHT AT A SHOP IN HARAJUKU...
KYAA--
LET ME SEE!
E-ER, NO, I-
WHISTLES
KYAA-
I'M SOOO JEALOUS!
HOW DID YOU GET TO KNOW HIM?
IT SAYS HERE THEY'RE LOOKING FOR A GIRL TO PLAY THE ROLE OF ATSUSHI'S GIRLFRIEND!
大募集!!
N-NO! I--
IF I'D KNOWN YOU HAD A BOYFRIEND
And he's famous too?
**I'm sooo jealous!

AH... BUT IT'S TOO LATE TO APPLY...
EH?
YOU'LL MAKE THE CUT, NO DOUBT ABOUT IT!
YOU SHOULD DEFINITELY TRY OUT, TOUKO-CHAN!
YEAH! ATSUSHI (YOUR BOYFRIEND) WILL BE THE ONE WHO'LL DO THE DECIDING ANYWAY!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT! JUST ASK ATSUSHI (YOUR BOYFRIEND)!
I AM SUCH A...
HA, HA, HA... NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, MY BOYFRIEND (ATSUSHI) WAS TELLING ME I SHOULD APPLY!
OOOOH! WHY AM I NOT SURPRISED--?
HEY
I AM SUCH A...

SLAP
...EH?!
NN
SHE'S SWEATING ALOT.
MAYBE SHE HIT SOMETHING SHE WASN'T SUPPOSED TO?
...
YOU SHOULD BE OKAY. YOU DON'T SEEM TO HAVE A FEVER.
W-WHO ARE YOU--?!
I'M THE ONE WHO SAVED YOUR LIFE.
AH...
IF I DIDN'T CATCH YOU,
YOU PROBABLY WOULD'VE BEEN IN THE HOSPITAL RIGHT NOW, YOU IDIOT!
SCRE--ECH

MAKE SURE YOU GET SOMEONE TO LOOK AT THESE LATER.
AH...
HE... BANADAGED MY HAND FOR ME ?
AH...
T-THE ONE FOR THE TV DRAMA WITH KUGAYAMA ATSUSHI...
U-UM... HAS THE AUDITION ALREADY STARTED?!
GOOO TOUKO!
AHHH-!
DID YOU COME HERE TO TRY OUT?
Y-
YES! BUT I WAS LATE. THAT'S WHY I CAME THROUGH THE WINDOW.
REALL-YYYY--
?
SHUTA
SLAM

YOU WERE KNOCKED OUT FOR OVER TWO HOURS.
"ATSUSHI" PROBABLY WENT HOME ALREADY.
THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING
LOOKS LIKE IT'S ENDED ALREADY
...!!
...!!
I GUESS ALL YOUR HARD WORK WAS FOR NOTHING
YOU LITTLE LIAR
...EH?
HAHA. BE HONEST. YOU PROBABLY DON'T EVEN CARE ABOUT THE AUDITION. ALL YOU WANTED WAS TO MEET ATSUSHI UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL, RIGHT?
...I...
WOULDN'T HAVE MADE UP...
A LIE LIKE THAT IF I DIDN'T HAVE TO!

WHAAA—!
I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO GO TO SCHOOL NOW!
WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?!
AHHH-
CALM DOWN
KICK
WAHHH—!
KICK
...WE'LL LISTEN TO WHAT YOU HAVE TO SAY
And what's with this "My honey" business?!
WHY DID HE SUDDENLY BECOME YOUR "BOYFRIEND"?! WHY ARE YOU TWO SUDDENLY "LOVEY-DOVEY"?!
...HEY! BUT ISN'T THAT LIE A LITTLE TOO FARFETCHED?!
"To my honey Touko, Atsushi
SO, THAT'S WHY...
HAHAHAHAHAHA!
HAHAH! This is classic!
Please Shrine my sins I feel great!

↑Of course Touko was the one who wrote th s in

NO, THEY'RE JUST TOO TRUSTING OF OTHER PEOPLE
ERR...
IS YOUR SCHOOL OUT IN THE COUNTRY-SIDE OR SOMETHING?
I'M SURPRISED THE PEOPLE AT YOUR SCHOOL WOULD BELIEVE YOUR LIE.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE THAT MAD...
...
THEY WERE EVEN KIND... TO A STRANGER LIKE ME WHEN I TRANSFERRED TO THEIR SCHOOL
I SERIOUSLY THOUGHT..
I COULD CHANGE THIS LIE INTO THE TRUTH
AND SO YOU DECIDED TO CRASH THROUGH A WINDOW?
YUP! I'M NOT SCARED SINCE I HAVE PRETTY FAST REFL-EXES!
SQUISH
AND PLUS...

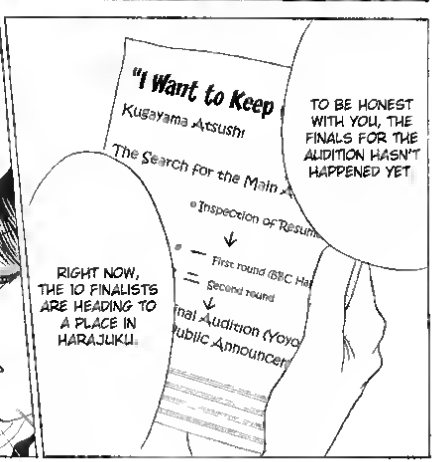
BECAUSE I THOUGHT I WAS CAPABLE OF DOING ANYTHING...

VROOM...
EHHH?!
KYOUICHI?

GET IN.
THROWS
EH?
EH?!

EH?
-LET'S GET GOING.
CLOSE

THE FINAL TEST WILL BE A "LOVE SCENE WITH ATSUSHI".
KYOUICHI!

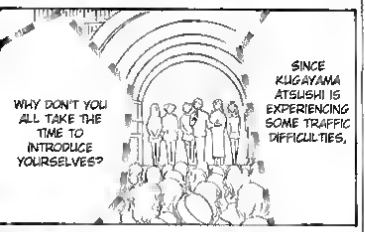

"I Want to Keep
Kugayama Atsushi
The Search for the Main
Inspection of Resum
First round @BC Ha
Second round
nal Audition (Yoyo
ublic Announcer
RIGHT NOW, THE 10 FINALISTS ARE HEADING TO A PLACE IN HARAJUKU.
TO BE HONEST WITH YOU, THE FINALS FOR THE AUDITION HASN'T HAPPENED YET

I'LL TURN YOUR LIE INTO THE TRUTH.
B-BUT H-HOW WOULD I BE ABLE TO GET IN...
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SAID YOU WERE "CAPABLE OF DOING ANYTHING".
THUMP
MY DAD AND THE PERSON HE REMARRIED ARE STILL LIVING THERE RIGHT NOW!
I'M NOT LYING!
WHAT?
I USED TO LIVE IN THIS APARTMENT.
IN HARAJUKU?
WHO IS THIS GUY...
AH!
H-HOW DID YOU GET THIS...
SOMEONE DROPPED IT AND I PICKED IT UP.

SPLASH
I WANTED TO SWITCH SCHOOLS ANYWAY, SO...
...
MY PARENTS DIVORCED!
HA, HA, IT'S PRETTY COMMON LATELY, I KNOW.
ISN'T TOUKO SUPER ANNOYING?
OH, THAT GIRL WHO ALWAYS SAYS STUFF LIKE "I'M FRIENDS WITH A MODEL", RIGHT?!
HER STORIES ALWAYS SOUND SO FAKE!
BUT ALL THE GUYS BELIEVE HER.
SHE'S JUST A LIAR AND THEY...
IT PISSES ME OFF!
...

DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE MUSCLES USED TO SHOW EMOTION?
HUH?
WHEN THE MUSCLE UNDERNEATH A LAYER OF SKIN IN YOUR FACE MOVES...
THAT'S HOW YOU CAN FORM FACIAL EXPRESSIONS
IF YOU LOOK AT IT THAT WAY, THERE'S NOT MUCH DIFFERENCE BETWEEN...
A "SAD" FACE AND A "HAPPY" ONE
OKAY...
SO WHAT?
SO...
SOMEONE WHO'S FELT THE DEEPEST OF PAINS..
HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO FEEL THE DEEPEST OF JOYS.
WIPE
HE'S A REALLY MYSTERIOUS PERSON...
WHAT'S YOUR NAME AGAIN?
STILL...
TOUKO...
KOMAZAWA TOUKO...

HARAJUKU
公開オーディション
見つめていたら
教員の彼女になれ

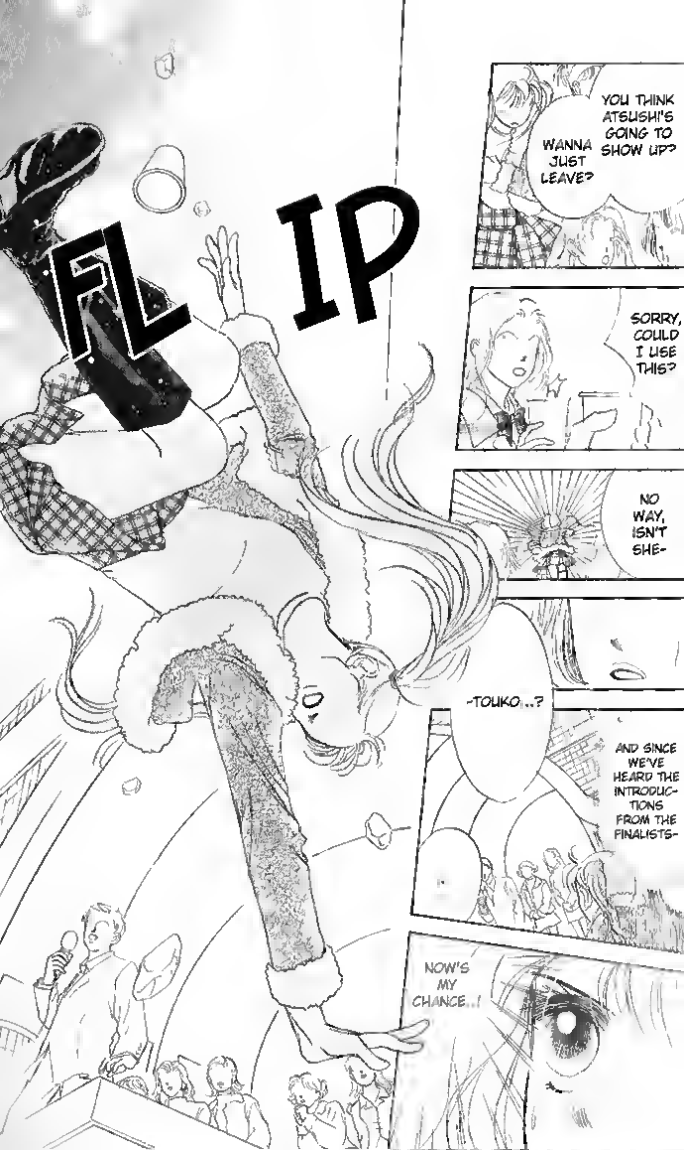

WHY DON'T YOU ALL TAKE THE TIME TO INTRODUCE YOURSELVES?
SINCE KUGAYAMA ATSUSHI IS EXPERIENCING SOME TRAFFIC DIFFICULTIES,

UMM... CAN I REALLY JUST JUMP IN?
WELL THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO BUT TRY.

HE WAS THE ONE WHO SAVED ME...

I'LL JUST HAVE TO KEEP LYING TO MEGUMI AND THE OTHERS...
E-EVEN IF THIS GOES WELL
YOU CAN'T GO TO SCHOOL TOMORROW OTHERWISE RIGHT?
HERE, THESE ARE THE LINES YOU HAVE TO KNOW FOR THE "LOVE SCENE WITH ATSUSHI"
EH?
OH RIGHT
I HAVE TO ACT, DON'T I?
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE STEPPED UP ON STAGE SINCE MY ROLE IN MY PRESCHOOL PRODUCTION AS THE "CHILD C"
I WANTED TO SEE YOU SO MUCH, I...
-AND SHYLY,
whaat?
PLEASE FEEL FREE TO REARRANGE THIS SCENE
AH--!
Why would she do something so stupid for her date with him?
DID YOU WAIT LONG?
HARUMI
-KAZUTO (KUGAYAMA ATSUSHI) AND HARUMI (THE GIRLFRIEND ROLE) MEETS FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A WHILE

THERE'S NO WAY IN HELL I'M DOING THIS!
#FOOHH#
YOU'RE GOING TO DO IT
KAZUTO... I'M THE HAPPIEST GIRL IN THE WORLD!
-SHE'S EMBRACED BY KAZUTO
HARUMI!
WHY DON'T YOU DO WHAT YOU DID EARLIER?
"A STRONGER IMPACT"?
I'LL TAKE CARE OF THE REST
IF YOU CAN MANAGE TO MAKE A STRONGER IMPACT WITH YOUR INTRODUCTION THAN THE OTHER SEVEN FINALISTS UP THERE,
OKAY!
GO!
AH—


FLIP
YOU THINK ATSUSHI'S GOING TO SHOW UP?
WANNA JUST LEAVE?
SORRY, COULD I USE THIS?
NO WAY, ISN'T SHE-
-TOUKO...?
AND SINCE WE'VE HEARD THE INTRODUCTIONS FROM THE FINALISTS-
NOW'S MY CHANCE..!

-HA
...OW.
SLAM
...!
SLIP
KYAAA-!
HAHAHAHA
SHE SLIPPED ON THE WATER SHE SPILLED HERSELF!
WE CAN SEE YOUR UNDER-WEAR YOU KNOW!

This is fan service!
EH...
HEHE...
UM... ARE YOU FRIENDS WITH TOUKO, TOO?
HAHAHA
...SHE HAS TO BE TOUKO!
I'M KOMAZAWA TOUKO 15 YEARS OLD!
I'LL BE CUTTING IN AND AUDITIONING FOR THE PART WITH THE REST OF THE FINALISTS!
WH-
WHO ARE YOU?!
GET OFF THE STAGE!
EH-
PULL
SORRY, I'M LATE

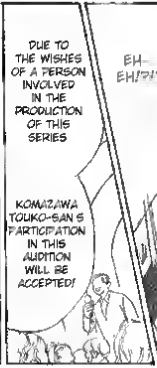
I'M KUGAYAMA ATSUSHI.

KYAA! ATSUSHI!
WHO IS THAT GIRL?!
KYA!
KYA! HE'S SOOO COOL!
ATSUSHI!
EH?!

WHAAA!
PULL

WHO... IS HE...?

THEN...
THEN...


DUE TO THE WISHES OF A PERSON INVOLVED IN THE PRODUCTION OF THIS SERIES
KOMAZAWA TOUKO-SAN'S PARTICIPATION IN THIS AUDITION WILL BE ACCEPTED!

EH-EH!?!?
I-DIOT! IF YOU LIKED ME ENOUGH TO CARRY AROUND A PHOTO OF ME, YOU SHOULD'VE AT LEAST REALIZED WHO I WAS

TOUKO-CHAN!
EH? Y-YES!
WE'LL BEGIN OUR FINAL TEST WITH KOMAZAWA-SAN...
MEGUMI?! AND YOU GUYS, TOO?!
Middle School's hot! ♡ ♡
Cooool Cool! Yeah!
WE CAME TO CHEER YOU ON!
We kept it a secret from you!
W-WHY?!
W-WHY?!
YOUR FRIENDS FROM TOKYO, REMEMBER?
I never thought I'd run into them here
OH, AND YOUR FRIENDS ARE HERE WITH US TOO!
EH?
"I'LL TURN YOUR LIE!!INTO THE TRUTH."

I HEARD YOU'RE "KUGAYAMA TSUSHI'S GIRLFRIEND".
WE HEARD EVERYTHING FROM YOUR FRIENDS HERE.
YOU SEEM TO BE DOING PRETTY WELL FOR YOURSELF.
EH ...?
WHAT... ARE YOU SERIOUS ?
MUMBLE MUMBLE
WHY IS SHE SAYING THIS IN FRONT OF EVERYONE ...?!
UHHH . THAT'S ...
Y-YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO PUT IT THAT WAY!
And you KNOW my name! It's TOOKO, remember!!
IGNORES
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE EVER SEEN HER.
I DON'T EVEN KNOW HER NAME
IS THAT WHY SHE COULD CUT IN LIKE THAT?!
NOOO WAYYY!
E-EVERYONE-
-EXCUSE ME!

THIS IS THE EXACT SAME PHOTO THEY'RE SELLING AT TAKESHITA DOORI IN HARAJUKU!
THIS IS THE PHOTO SHE HAD WITH HER, RIGHT?
HA, HA. ARE YOU STUPID OR SOMETHING?!
Y-YEAH!
HE PROBABLY CAN'T SAY SHE'S HIS GIRLFRIEND IN FRONT OF A CROWD LIKE THIS
H...
OH, I HAVE THAT PHOTO, TOO!
MUMBLE
THEY HAD IT AT THE IDOL SHOP
MUMBLE
WHAT ARE YOU DOING TRICKING COUNTRY BUMPKINS LIKE THEM, LITTLE MISS LIAR?!
SMIRK
EH?
TOUKO-CHAN THEY'RE LYING RIGHT?
GRABS
U-UM...
Fight-o!
Fight-O! Fight-O!
Touko-chan loves it,sushi-kun!

SPLASH
...!
MEGUMI
...
DASH
AH...
GET OFF THE STAGE!
WHO THE HELL DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?!
LIAR...!
PLEASE EVERYONE, CALM DOWN!
WE WILL BE TAKING A SHORT BREAK FROM AUDITIONS!
MUMBLE
MUMBLE

BUT DO YOU KNOW HOW MANY REPORTERS FROM THE MEDIA ARE HERE?!
WE ALLOWED HER TO PARTICIPATE BECAUSE YOU INSISTED ON IT.
WHO IS SHE?
A "NORMAL" AUDITION ISN'T GOING TO GIVE THEM ANYTHING WORTH WRITING ABOUT, DON'T YOU THINK?
A TV DRAMA ISN'T GOING TO BE A HIT WITHOUT A BIT OF SCANDAL.
THUMP
UM
DO YOU KNOW THAT GUY OVER THERE...?
EXCUSE ME?
OH, YOU MEAN MINATO KYOUICHI?
HE'S THE PRODUCER OF THE SERIES

CLATTER
HEY!
...WAIT!
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
OR ARE YOU NOT DONE WITH MAKING A FOOL OUT OF ME, MR. BIG-SHOT PRODUCER?
THE "PRODUCER"...?
I GUESS YOU COULD SAY HE'S THE "IT" GUY IN THE ENTERTAINMENT WORLD RIGHT NOW!
BUT EVERYTHING HE'S BEEN INVOLVED IN SO FAR'S GONE ON TO BECOME A HUGE HIT
HE ONLY STARTED PRODUCING TV SERIES LAST YEAR,

IF YOU DON'T GET BACK ON THAT STAGE,

ALL OF THIS WOULD'VE BEEN FOR NOTHING

SLAP

GRIP

UU...

YOU'RE...

A LIAR, TOO...

Komazawa Touko

From the very first drawing panel, her looks and personality just popped out at me so it was very easy to draw her. She's a favorite of mine! I especially love her cheerfully idiotic personality. I love her as if she were my own child.

IDIOTIC?

...A LIE CAN NEVER CHANGE INTO THE "TRUTH"!
...IT WON'T!
IT WILL WITH YOU, IT CAN.

YOU HAVE THE POWER TO CHANGE YOUR LIE INTO THE TRUTH
YOU...
HAVE THE TALENT TO BECOME SOMEONE OTHER THAN YOURSELF.
EVEN WHEN I KNEW I'D BE DEPRESSED ABOUT IT LATER,
I COULD NEVER PUT A STOP TO IT...
N-NOT REA-
EH?
PRETENDING TO BE "ATSUSHI'S GIRLFRIEND"?
WASN'T IT FUN...
A "TALENT"?

HEY?
EH? OH... WOW I NEVER NOTICED IT.
It must have been when
GEEZ! YOU'RE ALL WET!
AH...
HOW COULD YOU NOT NOTICE?! HERE, TAKE THIS.
I GUESS I WAS JUST OUT OF IT...
AH...
BECAUSE I FELT LIKE FOR THAT MOMENT FOR THOSE FEW MINUTES
I COULD BE SOMEONE OTHER THAN MYSELF

AH! NOW I GET IT! "HARUMI" DIDN'T REALIZE IT EITHER!
I DIDN'T GET WHY SHE WOULD WEAR MISMATCHED SOCKS,
WHEN SHE GOT TO SEE HER BOYFRIEND FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A WHILE,
BUT IT WAS BECAUSE SHE DIDN'T NOTICE IT!
SHE WANTED TO SEE HIM SO MUCH, NOTHING ELSE MATTERED!
CHUCKLES
BINGO.
I TOLD YOU.
A "SAD" FACE AND A "HAPPY" ONE ARE MADE UP OF THE SAME FOUNDATIONS
YOU HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO EXPRESS HARUMI'S EMOTIONS,
BETTER THAN ANY OF THOSE SEVEN ACTRESSES UP THERE

I DON'T KNOW...
IF I CAN ACT ANYWAY...
I... I MIGHT GET STUFF THROWN AT ME AGAIN...
AND...
SQUEEZE
YOU CAN.
YOUR LIES ARE TOP CLASS.
STEP
"I WANTED TO SEE YOU SO MUCH, I..."

WHAT? YOU'RE GOING TO PUT HER ON STAGE AGAIN?
AND NOW,
KYAAA!
WOW!
ATSUSHI!
SHE DECIDED TO EXPRESS HARUMI'S LOVE FOR KAZUTO BY APPEARING BAREFOOT.
SHE SHOWS ALOT OF POTENTIAL
HMM... PERHAPS THIS MEGURO RIKA WOULD BE FITTING FOR THE PART...
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT! EVERYTHING'S GOING TO GO GREAT!
THE CROWD'S GOING TO GET OUT OF HAND AGAIN! THINK IT OVER, MINATO-CHAN!
RIGHT, "HARUMI"?
SQUEEZE
I CAN SEE MY BOYFRIEND FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A WHILE.

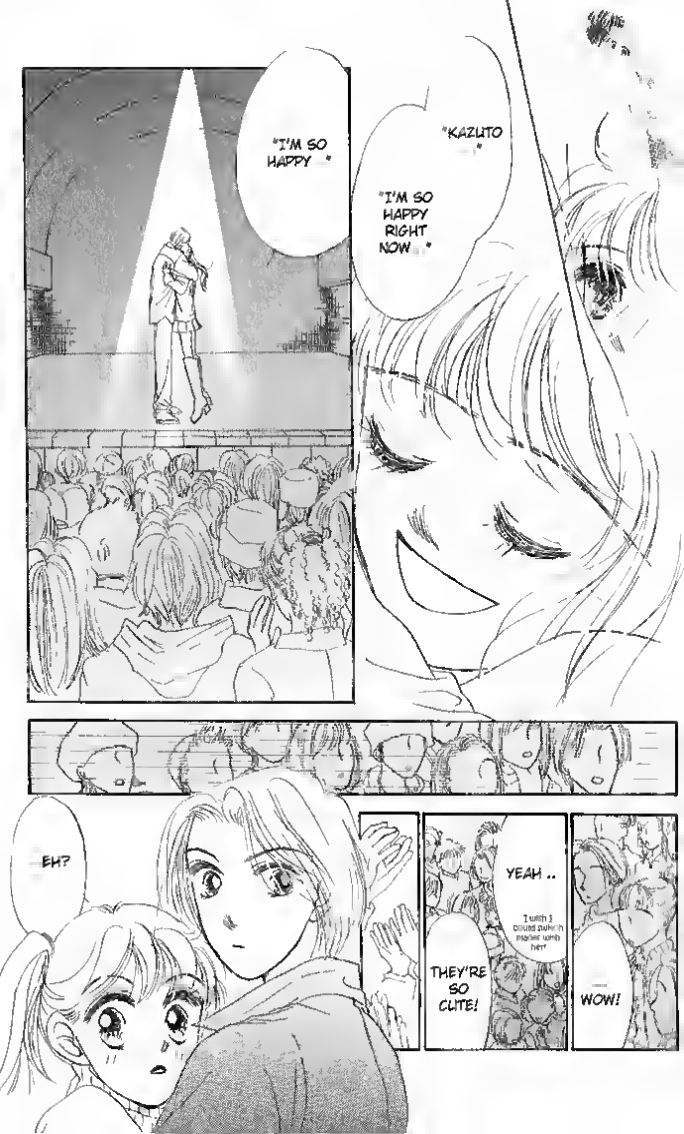
I LOOKED AT MY WATCH AGAIN AND AGAIN
AND I CHANGED MY CLOTHES SO MANY TIMES TRYING TO DECIDE WHAT TO WEAR...
I COULDN'T SLEEP AT ALL YESTERDAY.
ARE YOU SERIOUS?
WHATTT...!
WHY?
WILL BE KOMAZAWA TOUKO!
AND NEXT,
IS "KAZUTO" SOMEONE I'M SO IN LOVE WITH
THE ONE WAITING FOR ME
I'M NOT "KOMAZAWA TOUKO"
I'M "HARUMI".
RUSTLE

...!
...AH
SPLATTER
THROWS
...HEY, WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?! THROW IT!
O-OKAY!
"AH"...
EH?
..."DID YOU WAIT LONG"?

ATSUSHI'S
PLEASE, LET HER CONTINUE
MINATO-KUN! I TOLD YOU THIS WOULD HAPPEN WE'LL HAVE TO JUST CANCEL-
WHAT AM I GOING TO DO...?
"HARUMI...?"
IF I WAS THE HARUMI IN LOVE
IF I WAS HARUMI
"...IS IT STARTING TO RAIN?"
"HUH?" WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY?
"SEE? LOOK!"
"...AH."
IF I WAS HARUMI... I WOULDN'T HAVE NOTICED IT.
THAT'S RIGHT... IF I WAS HARUMI...

"RAIN"!
OH, SHE'S PRETENDING THE WATER IS RAIN!
MY HEART IS POUNDING...
FROM THE JOY OF JUST SEEING HIM THAT I...

HARDLY EVEN NOTICED
THE RAIN FALLING DOWN...
"I WANTED TO SEE YOU SO MUCH, I..."
"...HARUMI!"


"I'M SO HAPPY ."
"KAZUTO ."
"I'M SO HAPPY RIGHT NOW ."
EH?
I wish I could share my secret with her!
YEAH ..
THEY'RE SO CUTE!
WOW!

CLAP
CLAP
YAY!
CLAP
WHISTLE
AH...
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
DID I DO OKAY?!
SO-SO, I GUESS?
The comes over. Gets 'ere of the a rehit!
the main actress role goes to
Meguro Rika-san!
And now, we will reveal the results of the audition
It was an amazing experience!
Haha. I had a great time trying out!
The runner up was Komazawa Touko-san! Better luck next time!

I WISH I COULD HAVE HAD THE TIME TO BE IN YOUR DRAMA AND ALL, BUT YOU KNOW HOW IT IS...
CUT IT OUT.
Hahaha...
HEHE.
TOO BAD YOU DIDN'T GET THE PART.
...AH!
AH...
SEE YA. GOOD LUCK ON YOUR EXAMS.
You're in Grade 9, right?
MINATO-KUN, COULD YOU COME OVER HERE FOR A SEC?
WILL WE...
...KYO-UICHI!
...TOUKO.
EVER SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN...?

BECOME AN ACTRESS...
I'LL BE ABLE TO USE IN MY WORKS
...AN ACTRESS...?
TAP
LET'S MEET AGAIN IN TOKYO IN THE SPRING!

Tokyo Arts Private Academy
★Acting Wing Newly Built
"LET'S MEET AGAIN"
Tokyo Prefecture
Shinyaku
Jinkoumae
APRIL
SO IT'S BACK TO LIVING IN TOKYO?
WELL, I GUESS THERE'S NOT MUCH I COULD DO ABOUT IT SINCE YOU'RE SO SET ON GOING TO SCHOOL THERE
WHAT ARE YOU WHINING FOR? YOUR COMPANY WAS ASKING YOU TO COME BACK TO TOKYO ANYWAY RIGHT?
BUT...
SORRY IT TOOK ME SO LONG TO SAY THIS, BUT CONGRATS ON BEING ACCEPTED INTO TOKYO ARTS PRIVATE ACADEMY
I'VE BEEN ACCEPTED INTO A-HIGH, AND I'VE DECIDED TO GO THERE
TOUKO-CHAN, IT'S BEEN A WHILE, HASN'T IT? IT'S ME, MEGUMI
KOMAIZAWA-SAN, MAIL FOR YOU!
Kitajimoto Megumi

I LEFT YOU ALONE
I'M REALLY SORRY
BUT IN THE END I DIDN'T
TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH I THOUGHT ABOUT TRYING TO TALK TO YOU MANY TIMES AFTER WHAT HAPPENED
BUT
I WAS REALLY SHOCKED WHEN I FOUND OUT YOU WERE LYING TO ME
WHEN I THINK BACK TO IT ALL
I DON'T KNOW WHY BUT I CAN'T HELP BUT THINK IT WAS KIND OF FUN
I THINK IT'S BECAUSE
YOU'RE SOMEONE WHO CAN MAKE EVERYONE BELIEVE A DREAM
TOUKO?
PLEASE BECOME AN AMAZING ACTRESS. I'LL BE ROOTING FOR YOU EVERY STEP OF THE WAY!

IF YOU HAVE
THAN YOUR HEART
TO FORGIVE ME,
WOULD YOU
MIND WRITING
ME A REPLY?
YOU'RE THE
FIRST FRIEND
I EVER HAD!

I'M THE FIRST ONE HERE!
YAY!
MEGUMI! HOW'S IT GOING?
TODAY WE HAVE AN OPENING CEREMONY FOR PEOPLE IN GRADE 10 LIKE ME
AS IT TURNS OUT, THIS SCHOOL'S DUBBED THE "TV HIGH" BECAUSE SO MANY FAMOUS PEOPLE GO HERE!
WOW! THEY EVEN HAVE A GARDEN!
MY HEART'S POUNDING LIKE CRAZY!
"I HOPE I CAN BECOME A GREAT ACTRESS FAST SO I CAN STAR IN ♡KYOUICHI'S♡ TV DRAMAS!"
I GUESS I DIDN'T REALLY NEED THE "HEART MARKS"
ERASE ERASE
TRIP
CRASH
KYAA...!

IS THAT THE KIND OF ATTITUDE TO HAVE TOWARDS YOUR ELDERS?
...GEEZ!
AH!
I-I'M SORRY, I DIDN'T KNOW ANYONE WAS...
KY-
I'M A STUDENT HERE
3年Ⅱ組
港 京市
上記の者を、本校の生徒
東京電影学園
KYOUICHI-?!
WHY ARE YOU HERE?!
...HAH?

HEY
NO!!
OH, YOU DIDN'T KNOW?
NO WAY!
Y-YOU'RE IN HIGH SCHOOL?!

WHY THE HELL ARE YOU TALKING SO LOUD SO EARLY IN THE MORNING?
OH, ARE YOU A NEW STUDENT HERE TOO?

MEGUMI I THINK MY DAYS ARE GOING TO GET JUST A LITTLE BIT MORE INTERESTING!

KOMAZAWA
AS IF THAT COULD HAPPEN
CLAP
CLAP
EH?
ME... AN ACTRESS ?
CLAP
Y- YOU'VE GOT TO BE JOKING ME...
WOW!
WOW!
"TOUKO, BECOME AN ACTRESS I'LL BE ABLE TO USE IN MY WORKS "

translator's Note: they're reciting the Japanese alphabet.
They're probably doing this to learn ways to speak clearer, better, etc.

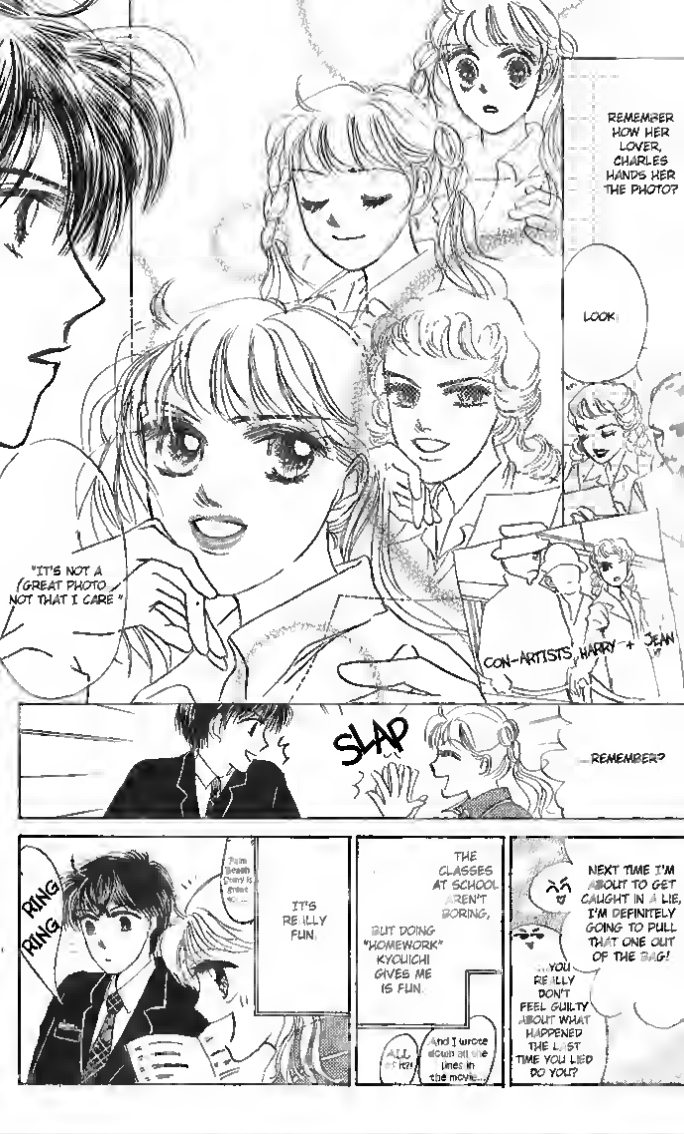
translator's note: (same alphabet repeated here)
THROWS
EH...!
GO AND PRACTICE OUTSIDE! OUT!
WHAT KIND OF PERSON CAN SLEEP IN SUCH A LOUD ENVIRONMENT?
IS THAT YOU TEACHER?
—WHAT?

I'M IN THE "THEATER/ENTERTAINER" PROGRAM WHERE I TAKE NORMAL CLASSES BEFORE LUNCH AND IN THE AFTERNOON I STUDY SPEAKING/DANCE/PANTOMIME ETC AND THEATER.
WELL IT BEATS STUDYING NORMAL SUBJECTS!
HAHAHAHA
WHAT ARE YOU UP TO, YOU LAZY BASTARD?
KYOUI-CHI!
WHAT? YOU FINISHED WATCHING THEM ALL?
OF COURSE!
WOW! IN A DAY?!
WHY NOT? THEY WERE AWESOME!
WHO ARE YOU CALLING "LAZY"?! IT'S BECAUSE I WAS UP ALL NIGHT DOING THE HOMEWORK YOU GAVE ME!
AND ALL OF THIS I HAVE MINATO KYOUICHI TO BLAME FOR

YES THAT'S RIGHT, THIS PERSON IS
DON'T YOU KNOW? LUBITSCH AND STURGES ARE CONSIDERED THE PIONEERS OF DRAMAS
GOOD FOR YOU
IT'S THE FIRST TIME I WATCHED A FOREIGN MOVIE WITHOUT FALLING ASLEEP!
BECAUSE I'M A GENIUS
SCREECH SCREECH
No way! HOW DO YOU DO IT?
No way!
A commission from last month
A GRADE 12 STUDENT BUT AT THE SAME TIME HE'S THE PRODUCER OF TV DRAMAS!!

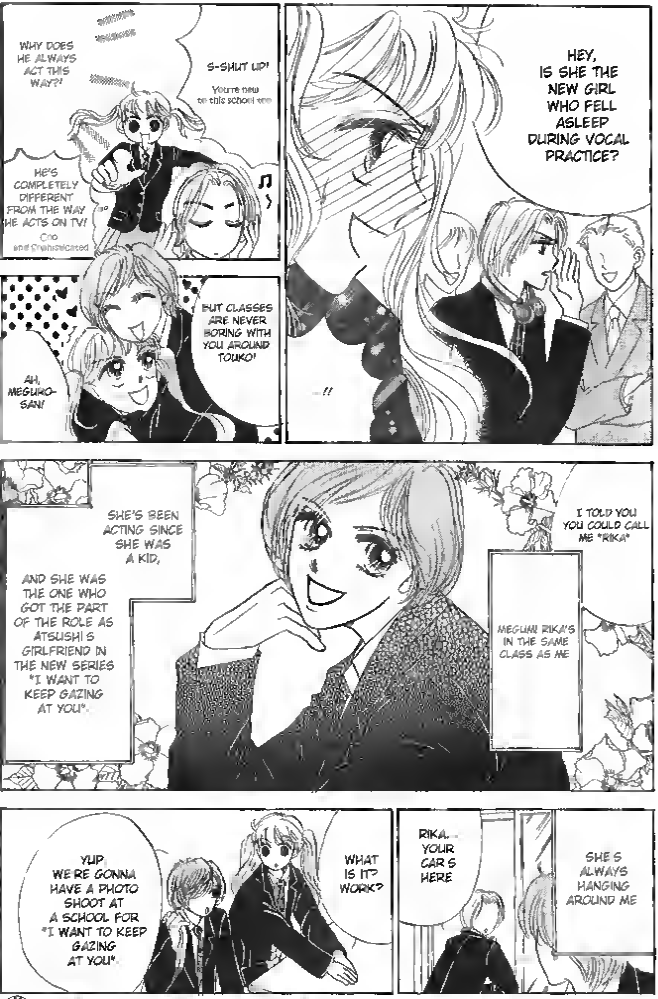
VIDEO
JEAN IN "LADY EVE" WAS REVEALED TO BE AN IMPOSTER!
OH, I LOVED THE SCENE WHERE THE MAIN CHARACTER,
SORRY, WHAT WERE YOU SAYING?
I WAS ASKING WHAT SCENE YOU LIKED BEST
AND SINCE I'M GETTING "HOMEWORK" FROM A GUY LIKE HIM...
HEY, ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME?
Who are you talking to?
DOES THAT MAKE ME A STAR IN THE MAKING?!

"Lubitsch Sturges"... They're both Hollywood directors. "Lady Eve" is a love comedy by Sturges about a female con-art st. Producer: He's the person in charge of producing the movie/series. He's in charge of everything from the contents of the plot to the management of the budget in casting.


REMEMBER HOW HER LOVER, CHARLES HANDS HER THE PHOTO?
LOOK
"IT'S NOT A GREAT PHOTO NOT THAT I CARE"
CON-ARTISTS, HARRY + JEAN
SLAP
REMEMBER?
RING RING
Palm Beach Diary is great, too...
IT'S REALLY FUN.
THE CLASSES AT SCHOOL AREN'T BORING,
BUT DOING "HOMEWORK" KYOUICHI GIVES ME IS FUN.
ALL RIGHT
And I wrote down all the lines in the movie...
NEXT TIME I'M ABOUT TO GET CAUGHT IN A LIE, I'M DEFINITELY GOING TO PULL THAT ONE OUT OF THE BAG!
...YOU REALLY DON'T FEEL GUILTY ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED THE LAST TIME YOU LIED DO YOU?

RIP
OUR SCHOOL LIBRARY SHOULD HAVE THEM ALL
HERE'S YOUR NEXT ASSIGNMENT.
SCRITCH SCRITCH
DAMN, AND I WAS JUST GETTING STARTED TOO!
WORK AGAIN?
YEAH. I'LL SEE YOU LATER.
WHATTTT, WHY...?
WELL WATCH IT UNTIL YOU GET THE FEEL OF THE CHARACTER MINAMI
I WATCHED "LONG VACATION" LAST YEAR ALREADY
YOU'VE PASSED "LADY EVE"
SLAP
...SO DO YOUR BEST WITH YOUR NEW HOMEWORK.
YEAH! I WILL!
BECAUSE YOU TOLD ME

What page are we on in English?
Let me check...
WOW...! ATSUSHI CAME TO SCHOOL!
"YOU HAVE THE TALENT TO BECOME SOMEONE OTHER THAN YOURSELF"
BUT IT'S THE FIRST TIME HE'S SHOWED UP TO CLASS SINCE THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL!
SO WHAT? HE'S IN THE SAME CLASS AS US, BIG DEAL
Ha
Actors/Actresses
Comedians
Idols
WE HAVE AN "ENTERTAINERS PROGRAM", WHICH MEANS HAVING FAMOUS PEOPLE, AND STARS-IN-THE-MAKING AS CLASSMATES.
BUT KUGAYAMA ATSUSHI, HE'S...


WHY DOES HE ALWAYS ACT THIS WAY?!
S-SHUT UP!
You're new to this school are
HE'S COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM THE WAY HE ACTS ON TV!
C'mon and G'reetingcard
BUT CLASSES ARE NEVER BORING WITH YOU AROUND TOUKO!
AH, MEGURO-SAN!
HEY, IS SHE THE NEW GIRL WHO FELL ASLEEP DURING VOCAL PRACTICE?
!!
SHE'S BEEN ACTING SINCE SHE WAS A KID,
AND SHE WAS THE ONE WHO GOT THE PART OF THE ROLE AS ATSUSHI'S GIRLFRIEND IN THE NEW SERIES "I WANT TO KEEP GAZING AT YOU".
I TOLD YOU YOU COULD CALL ME "RIKA"
MEGURO RIKA'S IN THE SAME CLASS AS ME
YUP. WE'RE GONNA HAVE A PHOTO SHOOT AT A SCHOOL FOR "I WANT TO KEEP GAZING AT YOU".
WHAT IS IT? WORK?
RIKA... YOUR CAR'S HERE
SHE'S ALWAYS HANGING AROUND ME

This is to promote the series. Whenever a new series is about to debut, the main actors and actresses get together to advertise it.

T-THERE IS NO RELATIONSHIP! NOTHING AT ALL!
OH REALLY ?
WHAT KIND OF "RELATIONSHIP" DO YOU HAVE WITH MINATO KYOUICHI, ANYWAY?
WHAT...!
EH?!
OH, THEN WILL KYOUICHI--- I MEAN, THE PRODUCER BE THERE TOO?
TO A PHOTO SHOOT?! AS IF!
WELL THEN
O-OH, OKAY...
SORRY TO BREAK IT TO YOU
BUT I HAVE MY EYES ON HIM, TOO
Just thought I'd let you know
WH...
HA!
I COULDN'T CARE LESS IF SHE
RUSTLE
WHAT?!
自業探索
インタビュー
Mistuo Eita Interview
PRODUCER MINATO IS ALWAYS WATCHING ME CAREFULLY GIVING ME POINTERS ON HOW I CAN IMPROVE MY ACTING

ONCE HE STARTS A NEW SERIES, HE HARDLY SHOWS UP AT SCHOOL
OH YOU MEAN, KYOUICHI?
Who does she think she is anyway?!
SLAM
"I HAVE MY EYES ON HIM, TOO JUST THOUGHT I'D LET YOU KNOW"?!
"I LOVEE
SENA'S PIANO PLAYING ..."
I'VE ALREADY MEMORIZED ALL OF "MINAMI"S LINES AND HE S NOT EVEN HERE
Long Vacation
Long Vacation
Long Vacation
She even wrote it all out.
HA!
QUIVER
QUIVER
WHAT AM I DOING...

Copyrighted Long Vacation/Kitagawa Eriko

- Minato Kyouichi
- Kugayama Atsushi

There weren't particularly any models who inspired these characters.

When it comes to the "High School Starlent/Producer" thing, I thought it was a possible combo since I was a mangaka since high school.

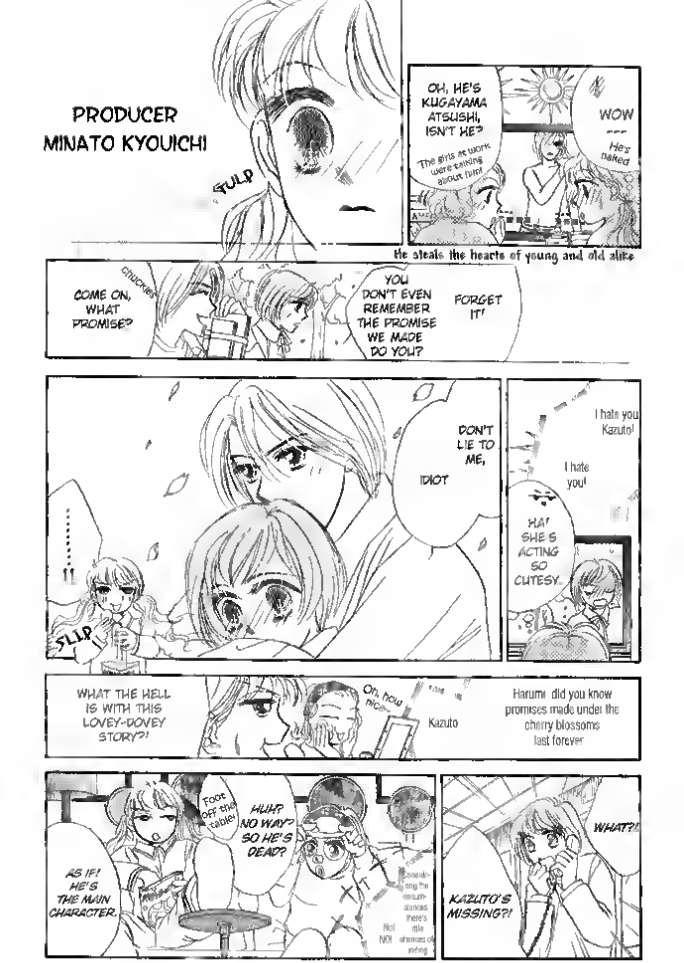
Well whatever, it's manga anything's possible (laughs). My assistant told me that Atsushi reminds her of "Playgirl K's Taku powered up". Well that was the kind of image I was going for. Kyouichi and Atsushi both have personalities I personally like, so they're easy to draw. But I'm always nervous when I'm drawing characters who are supposed to be "really cool" and "super popular". While I'm drawing I think "Is this kind of face okay?"

↑

"Well it's too late to change it (laughs.)"

PRINCE MINATO'S AT IT AGAIN?
WHY THE HELL DO WE HAVE TO WORK WITH A HIGH SCHOOL BRAT LIKE—
We've been in this business longer than him, he should've been taking orders from us!
HE SAID HE WANTS THE TAPING COMPLETELY RE-EDITED IT'S AIRING TODAY AND HE—
I WANT TO BE IN KYOUICHI'S TV DRAMAS!
AND HE PROBABLY HAS CONNECTIONS.
IT'S NO BRAINER IT'S GOING TO PULL IN NUMBERS
And combine share with the cast he has and the book he's basing the series on no wonder they're hits
ALL OF HIS SERIES ARE AIRING DURING THE GOLDEN TIMES
WHO CARES IT'S NOT LIKE HE'S GOING TO BE HERE FOR LONG ANYWAY
CLICK
WELL, I WISH HE'D DISAPPEAR SOONER THAN LATER.
PEOPLE ALWAYS SEEM TO LOVE CRITICIZING YOU, "PRINCE"
HAH?
Prince?

I'M JUST TELLING THE TRUTH.
IT'S TRASH TALK COMING FROM A BUNCH OF LOSERS. WHY SHOULD I CARE WHAT THEY SAY?
IT'S A GAME OF SIZE
DID YOU EVER THINK YOUR ATTITUDE MIGHT BE WHY THEY'RE....
MOM!
HURRY! IT'S GOING TO START SOON
CLICK
JUST BE QUIET AND WATCH!
WHAT!? WHAT ARE YOU GETTING SO EXCITED ABOUT?
I WANT TO KEEP
GAZING AT YOU


PRODUCER
MINATO KYOUICHI
GULP
OH, HE'S KUGAYAMA ATSUSHI, ISN'T HE?
The girls at work were raving about him!
WOW
He's naked
He steals the hearts of young and old alike
COME ON, WHAT PROMISE?
CHUCKLES
YOU DON'T EVEN REMEMBER THE PROMISE WE MADE DO YOU?
FORGET IT!
DON'T LIE TO ME, IDIOT
SLIP
I hate you Kazuto!
I hate you!
HA! SHE'S ACTING SO CUTESY.
WHAT THE HELL IS WITH THIS LOVEY-DOVEY STORY?!
Oh, how nice
Kazuto
Haruna did you know promises made under the cherry blossoms last forever
AS IF! HE'S THE MAIN CHARACTER.
Feet off the table!
HUH? NO WAY? SO HE'S DEAD?
Not NOT
WHAT?!
KAZUTO'S MISSING?!

I FEEL LIKE HE'LL COME BACK TO ME SOMEDAY
BUT STILL
I know it's no use waiting
HAHAHA. TAKE THAT "HARUMI"!
All this happened 'cause you're acting so high and mighty!
THUMP
I want to see him... I want to see him
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
TOUKO?
SORRY I'M IN A BIT OF A HURRY
YOU REALLY DON'T REMEMBER WHO I AM?!
.....
"KAZUTO" HAS AMNESIA! HE'S EVEN TALKING IN OSAKA-BEN!
NO! DON'T BELIEVE HER, HARUMI! IT'S A LIE!
Kumiko-san!
Kazuto's saying he's going to move in with me

GO HARUMI!
YEAH! THAT'S THE SPIRIT!
THIS PICTURE OF CHERRY BLOSSOMS
GOO, HARUMI!
I WONDER WHY?
I DON'T KNOW WHY BUT WHEN I THOUGHT OF YOU I STARTED DRAWING THIS...
HARUMI-SAN...?
to be continued
NOOO?!! WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?!
IT WAS LIKE A MOVIE!
UUUU...

BUT THIS SERIES DIDN'T HAVE ANY COMMERCIAL BREAKS, I COULDN'T HELP IT!
SORRY!!
GEEZ MOM! YOU RUINED THE MOMENT!
Oh!
I'M GOING TO THE BATHROOM!
EH?!
IT'S ALREADY 10:30?
THIS IS UNBELIE-VABLE
TBG
さらに
値下げ

IT'S 37.7%!!
THE AUDIENCE NUMBERS HAVE BEEN DRAWN UP!
I-IT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN A GRAPH LIKE THIS!
AND THE NUMBERS HAVEN'T DROPPED ONCE SINCE THE EPISODE BEGAN AIRING!
I FEEL SORRY FOR "HARUMI"!
OH! YOU MEAN THE PART AT THE TRAIN STATION RIGHT? I CRIED WATCHING IT!
DID YOU WATCH IT YESTERDAY? "I WANT TO KEEP GAZING AT YOU"?
YEAH! IT HAD ATSUSHI SPEAKING OSAKA-BEN RIGHT?
HE WAS SOOO HOT!
WHOA YOU'VE GOT A PRETTY GOOD MEMORY!
THIS IS THE ONE FROM THE COMMERCIAL!
Remember the commercial for the lipstick that aired right after the episode? Is it new?
It was only on for a short while, so I don't remember the brand.
WHOA
THE SPONSOR WHO WAS COMPLAINING BEFORE THE AIRING...
JUST PHONED TO SAY THEY'D LIKE TO CONTINUE SPONSORING THIS SERIES BY ALL MEANS!
HE'S AMAZING...

HE REALLY IS...
AN AMAZING PERSON.
I WANT TO KNOW WHAT HAPPENS IN "I WANT TO KEEP GAZING AT YOU"!
IF ONLY RIKA WAS HERE... WE COULD ASK HER!
BUT SHE HASN'T SHOWED UP TO SCHOOL AT ALL
↑ stretching before vocal lessons
BEING HERE... AND DOING STUFF LIKE THIS
ISN'T GOING TO GET ME ANYWHERE.
I HAVE TO TRY HARDER!
TOUKO?!
DASH
HEY, TOUKO, ARE YOU FREE AFTER SCHOOL?
I KNOW A GREAT PART-TIME JOB YOU COULD
DING DONG

I WONDER IF HE'S HERE ANYWAY?
BUT I WONDER IF I'M ALLOWED TO GO IN?
LIL I ENDED UP COMING HERE
PULL
WHAT?!
YOU'RE STILL HERE? GO HOME!
YOU SCARED!
I HAVE TO GET CLOSER TO KYOUICHI'S LEVEL!
DON'T LIE!
YELL
Y-YOU'VE GOT IT ALL WRONG! I'M HERE TO SEE THE PRODUCER...
T-THANKS
I NEVER THOUGHT HIM OF ALL PEOPLE WOULD END UP HELPING ME
SHE'S A GIRL FROM MY SCHOOL.
TSUSHI ...?!

NOW THAT I THINK BACK, I WAS A FAN OF HIS...
His face is so sweet
HEY
EH?!
AH!
STOP STARING AT ME.
OR ARE YOU GOING TO PAY ME?
¥10,000
ONCE KYOUICHI SHOWS UP, GO HOME OKAY?
You'll just be in the way
Are you a baby?!
EH?!
HE'S GOING TO BE HERE?! WHEN?! WHERE...?!
I'LL FINALLY BE ABLE TO SEE KYOUICHI!
5PM AT STAGE 5-
AH
This is the right place!

HEY TOUKO! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
OH, HEY!
WHAT ABOUT YOU? WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
I'M HERE TO BE AN EXTRA.
Don't you listen to what I say at all in class?
EH?
AN "EXTRA"? YOU MEAN, YOU GET TO BE ON TV?!
HAH?
The academy offers these to students
SHE GETS TO BE IN FRONT OF THE CAMERAS
WELL YEAH, KIND OF
I HATE TO BREAK IT TO YOU, BUT YOU'RE ONLY GOING TO BE ON FOR LIKE LESS THAN A SEC
I know, I know!
WOW I WANT TO BE IN IT TOO!
Kyouichi's probably going to be surprised when he finds ♡ out! ♡
EH?
I-I WANT TO BE AN EXTRA TOO!
HEY!
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING!

EH...?
What an ass! Assush is in the same class as us!
DON'T TALK TO THE ACTORS!
AND NO GETTING AUTO-GRAPHS EITHER!
HAH?
HAHA! I'VE MADE MY DEBUT ON SCREEN TOO!
I'LL TOUCH YOU!
HEY!
OKAY, YOU GUYS ARE GOING TO WALK PAST THE WINDOW.
WHY AREN'T WE ALLOWED TO TALK TO THEM?
I THOUGHT SINCE THERE'S 7 PEOPLE THERE MIGHT BE A GIRL WHO SKIPS—
ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND?!
EH?
YOU! WITH THE DONUT HAIR! WHY ARE YOU WALKING LIKE THAT?
We're going on to through a dry rehearsal first!
HMM?

GET YOUR ACT TOGETHER!!
She reacted to what the characters were saying
She made herself look depressed
EXTRAS DON'T NEED TO STAND OUT!
And what's with your hair? Straighten it out!
KOMA-ZAWA!
NO!
Y-YES!
I DON'T HAVE ALL DAY, YOU KNOW
WOULD ANYONE REALLY NOTICE IF THERE WERE SIX EXTRAS INSTEAD OF SEVEN?
? ?
HAVEN'T WE GONE OVER THIS SCENE ENOUGH TIMES ALREADY?
You! Get off the set!
...What?
ARGH, KUMIKO (HER CHARACTER'S NAME)!!
I sleepwalk with Kazu to
She's just like her character in real life!
I'M SORRY FOR THE INCONVE-NIENCE, (SATO-SAN, HER REAL NAME)

CLANK
OKAY, THIS IS THE REAL DEAL!
ANNNDD--START!
.....
GEEZ
HEY,
WASN'T SHE THE GIRL WHO MINATO ENTERED INTO THE AUDITION...?
OH HI, MARUTA AP*!
'MORNING
I NEVER KNEW HOW DIFFERENT EXTRAS WERE FROM THE REAL ACTRESSES...
THEY'RE NOT EVEN IN THE SPOTLIGHT
AP: Ass stant Producer
IT'S A WORLD WHERE
IT DOESN'T MATTER IF I'M HERE OR NOT
I
NEVER UNDERSTAND...
Kazuto you'll never understand!
KAZUTO YOU'LL...

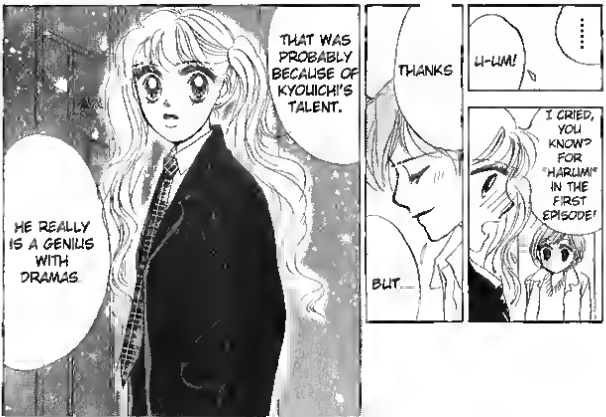
EH?
WAIT
WHY AM I CRYING ?
DON'T BE UPSET OVER SOMETHING LIKE THIS. YOU'RE AN ACTRESS, REMEMBER?
AH
KYOUICHI !
I WANT TO ACT
WHY AM I IN A PLACE LIKE THIS ?
RIGHT ALONGSIDE THEM!

DON'T YOU GET IT?! I GOT THIS PART BECAUSE MY AGENCY HAD IT ALL SET UP!
AH! MEGURO RIKA!
KYOU--
I'M NOT... AN ACTRESS
I DON'T WANT TO BE THE BALLS AND CHAINS FOR THE OTHER ACTORS ANY LONGER!
I KNOW... I DON'T HAVE ANY TALENT.
R-REALLY? SO THAT'S WHY SHE GOT THE PART...?
I DON'T WANT TO DRAG YOU DOWN WITH ME...

I DON'T WORK WITH ANYONE I CAN'T TRUST TO DO A GOOD JOB.
THUMP
YOU KNOW THAT.
THUMP
SQUEEZE
THUMP
SNAP SNAP
THUMP
CRASH
TOUKO.
HEHE
Megure Rika

"I WANT TO KEEP GAZING AT YOU"
I WAS JUST A BIT DOWN...
BECAUSE THE CRITICS WERE REALLY RUTHLESS WITH ME.
MISC
MEGURO RIKA
TAKE A LOOK AT THIS
OH DON'T SWEAT IT. DITTO FOR ME.
For what?
SORRY YOU HAD TO SEE ME LIKE THAT
Here's some coffee.
"I WANT TO KEEP GAZING AT YOU" IS PROBABLY MY LAST CHANCE...
I'VE BEEN ACTING SINCE I WAS A KID BUT BECAUSE OF IT I'VE GOT THESE QUIRKS I CAN'T SHAKE OFF.
I KNEW I WOULDN'T LAST MUCH LONGER.
Yeah... but they weren't exactly lyrics!
That's terrible!
THE GAME...?
AND THE OTHERS DISAPPEAR AS SOON AS THE GAME ENDS.
THE ONLY ONES WHO'LL LAST, ARE THE CHOSEN ONES.
W-WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?! YOU'RE STILL 15!
IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW OLD YOU ARE
IT'S JUST THE NATURE OF THIS BUSINESS.

I'VE KNOWN KYOUICHI SINCE I WAS A KID
HE ALWAYS CHEERS ME UP
WHEN I FEEL DOWN...
LIKE WHAT YOU SAW BEFORE...
AH!
I BETTER GET GOING! SEE YA!
OKAY, BYE.


THAT WAS PROBABLY BECAUSE OF KYOUICH!'S TALENT.
HE REALLY IS A GENIUS WITH DRAMAS.
THANKS
BUT...
U-UM!
I CRIED, YOU KNOW? FOR "HARUMI" IN THE FIRST EPISODE!

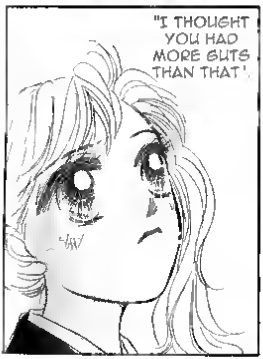
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING TRYING TO WEASLE YOURSELF INTO BEING AN EXTRA?
And they even outfitted you cuz. What's wrong with your
pull
DON'T WORRY! I WON'T GET IN YOUR WAY!
YOU SHOULDN'T BE ON TV JUST YET
EH?
AND THE HOMEWORK I GAVE YOU TOO?
BY THE WAY, ARE YOU KEEPING UP WITH YOUR LESSONS AT SCHOOL?
A LIAR BUT A GENIUS AT THE SAME TIME
HE'S..
click
YEAH

I FEEL LIKE SUCH AN IDIOT!
WHAT'S THE POINT, ANYWAY?!
WH
BECAUSE YOU KNEW I WOULDN'T BE AT SCHOOL, RIGHT?
YOU PROBABLY DIDN'T EVEN BOTHER TO WATCH THE SERIES,
SHOCK
IT'S SO OBVIOUS I DON'T HAVE TALENT, IT'S NOT EVEN FUNNY!
WHEN I CAN'T EVEN DO A GOOD JOB BEING AN EXTRA?!
HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO BECOME AN ACTRESS,
I QUIT!
I WAS JUST BEING LED ON BY SOME PRODUCER'S SWEET TALK!
TOUKO

SLAP
THOSE WORDS
Swish
HOW LONG IS IT GOING TO TAKE...
BEFORE YOU STOP PRETENDING LIKE YOU'RE SATISFIED WITH THE SMALL WORLD YOU'RE LIVING IN RIGHT NOW?
I THOUGHT YOU HAD MORE GUTS THAN THAT
WEREN'T FOR MY EARS ONLY...

I TRIED MY HARDEST...
I GAVE IT MY BEST SHOT TOO...
STILL...
SMACK
dr-p dr-p
UUU UU
EH?

GO AROUND HITTING ME?!
YOU IDIOT!
Y-YOU TOLD ME TO BECOME AN ACTRESS AND YOU...
DASH
WHAT'S WITH HIM ?!
A FACE IS AN ACTRESS' WORTH? QUUU
WHAT A CREEP!
LOSER!
HE PISSES ME OFF!
HE REALLY PISSES ME OFF...
HE WAS SOO NICE TO RIKA!
MY MOM'S NEVER EVEN HIT ME BEFORE AND ME
I I


"I THOUGHT YOU HAD MORE GUTS THAN THAT."

Ha! What does he know?

HEY, YOU OVER THERE!

I WANTED TO SEE YOU FOR SO LONG

TV-7
Assistant Producer
Mizuno Sumire
..EH?!
YOU'RE KOMAZAWA TOUKO-SAN, RIGHT?
IF YOU DON'T MIND, DO YOU HAVE A MINUTE?
EH?
Who are you?
I GET TO BE IN "I WANT TO KEEP GAZING AT YOU"?!
YOU GOT IT!
IT'S ONLY FOR A SMALL PART OF EPISODE TWO THOUGH
SMILE
I HAVE NO PROBLEM SEEING YOUR TALENT
YOU'RE SOMEONE WHO'LL BE MORE CAPTIVATING EACH TIME YOU'RE ON TV
I THINK YOU WERE CUT FROM THE EXTRAS BECAUSE YOU STOOD OUT TOO MUCH
YOU WERE THE BEST ONE OUT OF ALL THE PEOPLE WHO AUDITIONED FOR THE HARUMI-ROLE
BUT YOU STILL GET A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF LINES.
AND YOU'LL EVEN GET TO BE IN A SCENE WITH ATSUSHI
F-So this is the script..

"THE TAPING WILL BE NEXT WEDNESDAY...
WE'LL SEE YOU THEN."
TV 7
"THIS WAS A DECISION I MADE ON MY OWN SO DON'T SAY ANYTHING TO PRODUCER MINATO UNTIL THE TAPING OKAY?"
I WON'T SAY A PEEP!
AS IF I'D SAY ANYTHING TO THAT JERK!
IT'S ALWAYS BEEN THAT WAY! PEOPLE WHO GET IT, WILL JUST GET IT! RIGHT AWAY!
ERR AHEM!
KAZUTO SNAPS OUT OF IT MOMENTARILY BUT IT'S TOO LATE MAIKO LEANS IN AND FORCEFULLY
MAIKO COMES ON TO KAZUTO, WHO IS CLEARLY DRUNK
"AWWW HE'S SO CUTE---!" (IN A GIRLY TEENAGER-WAY)
"YOU'LL EVEN GET TO BE IN A SCENE WITH ATSUSHI!"
EH?
FORCE FULLY...
UH?
K--
"A GIRLY TEEN-AGER WAY"
A ROLE OF MY VERY OWN.)
Maiko (15) Kowazawa Touko
Mother Kawada Michiko
She throws it in

K---
舞子、和人に
ムリヤリキスする。
ムリヤリ・・・な・・・？
KISSES HIM?!
* The script reads "Make lesbians and forcefully kisses him"
W--WHAT AM I GOING TO DO...?
舞子・ムリヤリ和人に
NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES I RE-READ THE SCENE IT'S STILL THE SAME
IT'S JUST THE NATURE OF THIS BUSINESS
IF I SAY NO TO THIS PART I MIGHT NEVER GET ANOTHER CHANCE
I'VE COME A LONG WAY
I WANT KYOUICHI TO TELL ME
STILL...

I--- I HAVEN'T EVEN HAD MY FIRST KISS YET~~!!
ROOM
W-W-WHAT?!
HEY
She's thinking back to the script
SHUT UP!!
WHY ARE YOU HERE? LAST TIME I HEARD YOU WERE KICKED OFF THE SET
WHY DO I HAVE TO DO A SCENE LIKE THIS WITH A GUY LIKE HIM?
AH!
AH!
THUMP
THUMP
I KNOW...
IT'LL BE WITH THE KUGAYAMA ATSUSHI BUT STILL...

...SO WHAT IF I DO?
...LOOK!
HAH?
YOU REALLY HATE ME, RIGHT?!
YOU HATE ME RIGHT?!
I GOT IT!
HEY!
STOMP
SINCE YOU DO HAVE THE MAIN ROLE IN THE SERIES!
COULD YOU CONVINCE THE PRODUCERS TO TAKE THIS SCENE OUT?!
NO WAY.
WITHOUT HAVING TO DROP THE ROLE ALTOGETHER!
NOW I'LL BE ABLE TO GET OUT OF KISSING HIM,
WAY TO GO ME!
I'm so smart!
I CAN BE IN KYOUICHI'S DRAMA!
I GOT THE PART FOR MAIKO!
YOU DON'T WANT TO KISS ME, DO YOU?!

I DON'T FEEL ANYTHING IF IT'S A GIRL I'M KISSING.
I DON'T REALLY CARE ONE WAY OR THE OTHER
B-BUT ATSUSHI, YOU---
AND ANYWAY,
THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO ABOUT IT IF IT'S IN THE SCRIPT
IT'S TOO MUCH WORK TO ARGUE OTHERWISE.
Especially with the author of the original.
HAH?!
What did you just...
SINCE I'M...
GAY.
YEAH, SO IT MEANS I'M INTO GUYS.
How did that song go again? ♫
A GUY WHO LOVES ANOTHER GUY...
U-UM... GAY AS IN
ER...

(TOKYO BABY GAME VOL1 CH3 / END)

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